



KOMU News- Mid-Missouri
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Fighting Stroke Fatalities

Reported by: Ashton Goodell

JEFFERSON CITY - Specialists discuss plans to better respond to heart attack and stroke victims.

The task force focused on training doctors to respond to heart attack and stroke victims quickly, and is trying to develop a standardized emergency response system for victims of stroke and heart attacks.

The new system, currently moving through the Missouri House and Senate, would ensure that patients in smaller towns will get the same care as patients in larger cities.

Strokes and heart attacks are two of the top three killers in Mid-Missouri, says Dr. Scott Duff, a vascular neurologist. He says that the numbers are so high because strokes are often painless and many patients fail to get help.

"I think that people, when they suffer a stroke, because its not painful, they think it will go away," says Duff. "While it's painless, it's very disabling, and you have a chance of dying if you don't get help right away for it."

Doctors say eating more vegetables with deep colors like bell peppers or carrots or simply parking a little farther away promote heart healthy lifestyles.

Posted by: Kyle Stokes